

REMARKS

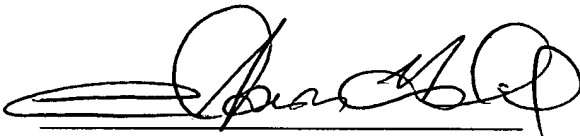
The present application is the United States national stage filing of corresponding international application number PCT/EP2004/051190, filed on June 22, 2004, which claims priority to and benefit of European Application No. 03425436.7, filed on July 1, 2003.

Claims 1-71 have been cancelled without prejudice as to subject matter or to refile. New Claims 72-142 have been added. New claims 72-142 are former claims 1-71 rewritten to conform to correct stylistic errors and to conform to current U.S. practice. No new matter has been added. Support for new claims 72-142 is found in the original claim set and throughout the disclosure. As such, claims 72-142 are currently pending.

No fee is believed to be due with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

Respectfully submitted,

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